



Attorney Docket No. 5500-01-TMC

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF:

H.P. ALBRECHT ET AL.

APPLICATION NO.: 09/284,424

FILED: APRIL 9, 1999

FOR: ASPARTATE ESTER INHIBITOR OF
INTERLEUKIN-1B CONVERTING
ENZYME

EXAMINER: L. MAIER

ART UNIT: 1621

I hereby certify under 37 CFR 1.8(a) that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage on the date indicated below and is addressed to the Assistant Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Date of Deposit April 25, 2000

Lisa Perron

Hon. Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

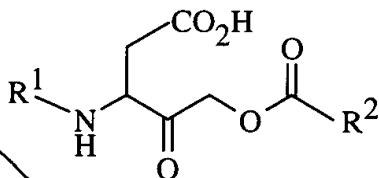
REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111

This is in reply to the Office Action mailed October 25, 1999, the period for response thereto having been extended three months to expire on April 25, 2000, pursuant to the Petition for Extension of Time enclosed herewith.

Please amend the above identified application as follows:

In the Claims:

(Amended). A compound of the Formula I



I

wherein R¹ is R³OC-,